

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 3131 O Street~Suite 300
Thursday, March 8, 2018 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Bradley Brandt	Justin Carlson	Jim Crook	Peter Levitov
Sherrie Nelson	Anne Pagel	Bob Ripley	Deb Schorr
Jeff Schwebke			

Members Absent:

Hannah Cass	Leirion Gaylor Baird	Justine Linscott	Joe Tidball
Kathi Wieskamp	Vacancy (Deitchler)	Vacancy (Fitzgerald)	

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director	Holly Lewis, Assistant Director
JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager	Chris Myers, Parks Operations Manager
Wade Foreman, Golf Business Coordinator	Jocelyn Golden, Asst. City Attorney
Maggie Stuckey, Parks Foundation Director	Angela Chesnut, Executive Secretary

Call to Order & Recognition of ‘Open Meetings Act’: As per law, Chairperson Brad Brandt announced that the Board follows the regulations of the Open Meetings Act, and called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Roll was called by Angela Chesnut.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Bob Ripley and seconded by Jim Crook to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2018 meeting as presented, with Chairman Brandt requesting that the addition of the 402 area code be added to telephone numbers of Committee Chairs. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”:** **Bradley Brandt, Jim Crook, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Ann Pagel, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Jeff Schwebke.** **“ABSTAIN”:** Justin Carlson. **“No”:** None. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

• **Fees & Facilities Committee – Justin Carlson (Chair) 402-770-7188**

Lynn Johnson provided an overview of the proposed Pioneers Park Bridle Paths Action Plan, which would be implemented in three phases (copy attached to official minutes on record). Following Board discussion public comment was received by Rocky May, Sue May, Walt Broer, and Joy Broer, representing the equestrian community, and offering volunteer support and potential funding assistance. Mr. Broer thanked Lynn Johnson and Parks & Recreation staff and the Board for their hard work and assistance in working with the equestrian community to complete the proposed Action Plan. Historical information was provided as well as future long term potentials. Current concerns of the plan are with the lack of a time

line and no specific deadline indicated. Staff will work with the equestrian community to begin as soon as possible with current available funding.

A motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by Bob Ripley to approve adoption of the Pioneers Park Bridle Path Action Plan as proposed. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Ann Pagel, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Jeff Schwebke**. **“No”**: **None**. **Motion carried.**

JJ Yost and Mark Nelson from the Lincoln Pickleball Association provided information from the Peterson Park pickleball courts and the success and growth of that project and those participating in the sport. JJ then discussed the conceptual master plan proposed for Jensen Park and the potential future addition of a 16-court or possibly 32-court pickleball complex to that plan (copy attached to official minutes on record). Following review of the plan, and discussion of a potential funding campaign and future growth for recreational opportunities, a motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by Deb Schorr to approve endorsement of the conceptual master plan for future improvements in Jensen Park as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Ann Pagel, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Jeff Schwebke**. **“No”**: **None**. **Motion carried.**

Futures Committee – Jeff Schwebke (Chair) 402-470-3384

Nothing to report at this time. Lynn Johnson reported that upcoming meetings will include policy discussions regarding public forums and on memorials on Park properties. Bob Ripley expressed his concern regarding the Veterans Memorial Garden east of the Auld Pavilion and the need to provide a boundary for the Garden, as well as a concern of the addition of another memorial by another group of another type at Antelope Park.

• **Golf Report – Sherrie Nelson (Chair) 402-416-0137**

Sherry Nelson and Wade Foreman gave an update regarding mowing modifications at Highlands Golf Course which would also include prairie grass plantings for mowing reductions. They praised the plan and noted potential cost savings.

Sherry also informed the Board of a letter (copy attached to official minutes on record) from the Golf Committee to Mayor Beutler requesting subsidizing Ager Golf Course operation, as well as concerns in union contract compensation and benefit requirements for full time staff resulting in budget constraints.

Wade noted that the annual Golf Open House is being planned for Saturday, April 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Holmes Golf Course.

• **Executive Committee – Brad Brandt (Chair) 402-421-7734**

Lincoln Parks Foundation – Maggie Stuckey: 8-year-old Simon Brockmeier, who has been raising funds for new playground pieces at Bishop Heights Park will be providing a presentation to the Board at the April 12th meeting; 18-year-old Daniel Robertson has lead the efforts for fundraising and design of the Doolittle Raiders Memorial Monument project, which will be dedicated on April 18th at the Veterans Memorial Garden in Antelope Park.

STAFF REPORTS:

Lynn Johnson provided a presentation (copy attached to official minutes on record) to Board members on the LNKStat Performance Management Reporting System regarding the outcome area of Healthy and Productive People. This outcome area consists mainly of the recreation center, with discussion focusing primarily on the priority for replacement of the Air Park Recreation. Preparation of a master plan and cost estimate are needed, followed by development of a funding strategy.

A brief discussion was held on Emerald Ash Borer plans. The Community Forestry Advisory Board is currently discussing and reviewing a proposed response and recovery plan, and had recently requested public input on the plan. A letter received from Mary Roseberry-Brown was included in Board member packets. The CFAB will hold additional meetings prior to recommending approval of an EAB Response and Recovery Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.